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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Venezuela DATE DISTR.

23 November 1948

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SUBJECT

Political Situation in Venezuela Growing More

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

SOURCE

- The alleged agreement reached on 20 November 1948 between President Romulo Callegos and the dissatisfied Army clique is not considered a final satisfactory settlement of the issues by the Army. The latter group continues on an alert basis with extraordinary guard measures being taken at their barracks and other strategic points near them.
- 2. All available information indicates that the Army is anti-Communist and several reports claim that they have been urging the outlawing of the Communist Party.

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- as a result of talks with eleven officers in one Caracas 3. barracks on 22 November, that the Army is persistent in its demands and is bitter toward President Gallegos and Romulo Betancourt, President of the Accion Democratica Party, as well as considering Carlos Delgado Chalbaud, Minister of National Defense, a traitor to the Army. The officers also claim to have plans for the assassination of Lt. Colonel Jesus Manuel Camez Arallano, Chief of the Paracay garrison, in the event he orders troops to support the Covernment.
- that police are preventing traffic in the area A report of of the central police station and the Capitol, and that the Army is withholding traffic around the Presidential Palace. Gallegos allegedly has taken refuge in his own private residence.

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Corrent. The situation is extremely delicate and uncertain and one which may result in a general strike initiated by Accion Democratica and Communistcontrolled labor groups. It may also result in the use of arms by these two political parties and subsequent bloodshed.)

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